



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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January 11, 2006

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director

**SUBJECT: DRAFT STATEMENT OF BOARD POLICY ON POSSIBLE 2006
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

Background and Summary

State Board of Health Policy 2001-001 creates a procedure for monitoring legislative issues during session. It also establishes processes for communication between Board members and the Legislature. The policy calls for the creation of a Board policy statement that would inform the activities of staff and individual Board members as issues came up during a legislative session.

At its December 2005 meeting, the Board reviewed a preliminary draft of a policy statement based on the previous statement and a staff assessment of issues that are likely to arise during the 2006 session. During the agenda item, Board members made several comments without requesting specific changes to the document. Afterward, one Board member suggested that the document should reflect better the relationship between health disparities and many of the issues that will be before the Legislature.

I took those comments, as well as any additional information I received about the likely legislative agenda, and developed a final draft for possible adoption at today's meeting (attached). If adopted by the Board, the "Statement of Board Policy on Possible 2006 Legislative Issues" will serve as a guidance document for the 2006 legislative session, which convened January 9.

Recommended Board Action

The Board may wish to consider, amend if necessary, and adopt the following motion:

Motion: The Board adopts the Statement of Board Policy on Possible 2006 Legislative Issues as submitted on January 11, 2006.